Moultonborough Heritage Commission



The Moultonborough Heritage Commission works toward the proper recognition, use, and protection of significant historical and cultural resources in the Town of Moultonborough. The Commission continues to promote barn preservation, by assisting applicants to the RSA 79-D (barn easement) program, reviewing and making recommendations on applications, and monitoring existing barn easements. In the past two years, three barns on working farms have been added to Moultonborough's roster of 79-D barns (there are presently eight barns in the program). In 2014, the Commission also worked with local farm owners to include their properties in the NH Farm Bureau's forthcoming book on century farms.

The Heritage Commission hosted a popular Plant Family event in July 2014, to mark the centennial of the historic Lucknow estate (the Castle in the Clouds). Dr. Barry Rodrigue signed copies of his new book *A Castle in the Clouds: Tom Plant and the American Dream*, while his cousin Ken Plant gave a presentation on family history using period documents and artifacts. Cristina Ashjian contributed a slideshow of historic Plant Family photographs, featuring activities at various family properties, and showing excursions to Ossipee Mountain Park and on Lake Winnipesaukee. Such Community Landmarks events are intended to promote public appreciation of our local historical resources. In 2015, the Heritage Commission will continue to collaborate with local and state entities on community preservation projects.

Seeking to plan for the future and revitalization of Moultonborough Village, both Cristina Ashjian and Bruce Worthen participated in Village Vision Committee (VVC) efforts, contributing the 'then and now' slideshow 'Moultonborough Village Views' (see town website). The VVC survey results strongly support preserving and repurposing historic buildings in the village center, providing impetus for the Commission to focus on vacant and underutilized properties in 2015, including the Adele Taylor House and the Moultonborough Grange Hall (above 3D laser scan image courtesy of John Smits). Finally, appreciation and gratitude are due to retiring Commission members Mark Borrin and Bruce Worthen.

Respectfully submitted, Cristina Ashjian, Chair

Jean Beadle, Secretary Mark Borrin (Alternate) Ed Charest (Alternate) Norman E. Larson Joel Mudgett (BoS Representative) Bruce Worthen